



# Kentucky Exposition Center

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## **KENTUCKY STATE FAIR FREE CONCERTS**

### **TO BE HELD ON CARDINAL STADIUM FIELD**

*Safety report found several structural deficiencies in Cardinal Stadium*

**Louisville, Ky** (April 26, 2013) – As a result of a new report on the condition of Cardinal Stadium at the Kentucky Exposition Center, the Kentucky State Fair Board today announced plans to hold the Kentucky State Fair’s free concert series on the stadium field.

Kentucky State Fair Board President and CEO Clifford “Rip” Rippetoe said that safety of fair attendees, concertgoers and employees is the primary concern. Citing deteriorating conditions at the 56-year old stadium, Rippetoe pointed to the recent inspection report in saying that he and fair officials have made the decision to move concertgoers out of the grandstand and onto the field in what he described as a more intimate environment.

“We are moving forward to provide an even better concert experience in a safe and comfortable environment. The free concerts are a huge draw for the fair, and we intend to improve the setting and the excitement with this new configuration.”

(more)

The inspection of Cardinal Stadium revealed continuing deterioration in the structure, with costly renovations and repairs needed to stabilize portions of the 19,000 seat venue.

Rippetoe said that the board is looking at all options for the stadium, noting that the repairs would be cost prohibitive.

“We feel confident that this plan for the fair is safe and will best serve our concertgoers,” Rippetoe said.

State engineers have said that the unstable conditions relate to the grandstand and structure but not the field. Chairs and bleachers will be arranged on the field, with the concert stage at the first baseline.

The Kentucky State Fair free concert series includes:

Aug 15	Vertical Horizon and Blind Melon
Aug 16	En Vogue and Unlimited
Aug 17	Chevelle
Aug 18	Oak Ridge Boys and Jimmy Fortune
Aug 19	Casting Crowns
Aug 20	Clay Walker and Parmalee
Aug 21	Jerrod Niemann, Thomas Rhett, Kelsey K
Aug 22	Happy Together Tour (The Turtles, Chuck Negron, Gary Lewis, Gary Puckett and Mark Lindsay)
Aug 23	Montgomery Gentry
Aug 24	Theory of a Deadman and Black Stone Cherry

These concerts are free with paid Fair admission. Kentucky State Fair dates are August 15 – 25.

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